

REMARKS

The Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection.

Claims 29-35 are now pending.

The Applicants have provided a new title of the invention as required by the Examiner on page 2, item 2 of the Office Action.

The Examiner required a substitute specification having more discernable writing. A substitute specification which contains no new matter accompanies this Reply. No marked-up copy of the substitute specification is included because no changes have been made to the specification.

Claims 18-22, 24-25, and 29-34 were objected to because of the informalities listed on pages 2-4, item 4 of the Office Action. The claims have been amended to address the Examiner's concerns.

Claims 18-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Blumenau et al U.S. Patent No. 6,421,711 (Blumenau).

Blumenau is directed to a data storage system having virtual ports for data transfer. Blumenau's system comprises a cached storage subsystem 20 having plural logical units or volumes, accessed by a plurality of hosts 22-25 coupled to plural port adapters 35-36. In port adapter 35, for example,

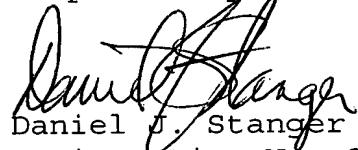
a volume access table 80 defines a correspondence between hosts and volumes accessible to each host through the port adapter. By this table, each host can see only a subset of the volumes in the cached storage subsystem 20.

Blumenau discloses a conventional user verification scheme using a password at login time. In such a scheme, whether the user can log into the host is determined by the password. Blumenau does not disclose a private logical unit accessible from a computer being used by a predetermined user whose user name indicates the user and is used to determine whether access to the private logical unit may be granted. Thus, a user A may access a private logical unit A from his or her own computer A, or from another computer B, so long as the user A logs in using the user name A. The computer A can no longer access the logical unit A in this case.

On the other hand, because Blumenau only discloses password-based login verification, whether the logical unit is accessible is determined based on the host ID, not the user name.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Daniel J. Stanger  
Registration No. 32,846  
Attorney for Applicants

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR, P.C.  
1800 Diagonal Road, Suite 370  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314  
Telephone: (703) 684-1120  
Facsimile: (703) 684-1157  
Date: June 14, 2004

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on 6/14/2004, by Daniel J. Stanger